

**PATENT**

Applicant or Patentee: ROBERT FRINK

Serial or Patent No.: 0 / \_\_\_\_\_

Filed or Issued: Herewith

For: VEHICLE EXHAUST SYSTEM HOSE AND COUPLING ASSEMBLY

**VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY  
STATUS (37 CFR 1.9(f) and 1.27(b)) – INDEPENDENT INVENTOR**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under Section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, to the Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention entitled

described in

☒ the specification filed herewith

☐ application serial no. 0 / \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_.

☐ patent no. \_\_\_\_\_, issued \_\_\_\_\_.

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

☒ no such person, concern, or organization

☐ persons, concerns or organizations listed below\*

\*NOTE: Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27).

FULL NAME: ROBERT FRINK

ADDRESS: 2253 30<sup>th</sup> Street, Rock Island, IL 61201

☒ INDIVIDUAL

☐ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN

☐ NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

FULL NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

☐ INDIVIDUAL

☐ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN

☐ NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

FULL NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

☐ INDIVIDUAL

☐ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN

☐ NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b)).

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

ROBERT FRINK

Name of Inventor

  
Signature of Inventor

Date 3/1/04

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Inventor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Inventor

Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Inventor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Inventor

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ESTABLISHED 1864

EDWARD D. SWEENEY 1864-1910  
WILLIAM JACKSON 1864-1863  
CHARLES L. WALKER 1878-1927  
JOHN J. INGRAM 1910-1917  
WILLIAM J. SWEENEY 1899-1936  
EDW. L. EAGLE 1927-1975

EDW. L. EAGLE, JR.  
ROBERT A. EAGLE  
ELIZABETH EAGLE TEROS  
JAMES B. EAGLE\*

\*ALSO ADMITTED IN IOWA  
\*PATENT ATTY.

**Eagle and Eagle**  
**Attorneys at Law**

SUITE 200

224 EIGHTEENTH STREET

P.O. Box 5105

**Rock Island, Illinois 61204-5105**

TELEPHONE (309) 788-7671

FAX (309) 788-7530

March 1, 2004

Commissioner of Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: Vehicle Exhaust System Hose and Coupling Assembly

Dear Sir:

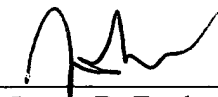
Enclosed please find Fee Calculation Sheet and required fee of \$385.00, New Application Transmittal, Application, drawings in triplicate, Information Disclosure Statement, Prior Art Patents, Verified Statement (Declaration) Claiming Small Entity Status and Declaration and Power of Attorney.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

EAGLE & EAGLE

By



James B. Eagle

Registration No. 35,496

JBE/tm  
Enclosures

## **DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that I believe that I am the original, first and sole inventor (in only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

### **VEHICLE EXHAUST SYSTEM HOSE AND COUPLING ASSEMBLY**

the specification of which is attached hereto.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

I hereby appoint the following attorneys to prosecute this application and transaction all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith: JAMES B. EAGLE

Please send all correspondence to:

James B. Eagle  
Eagle & Eagle  
Attorneys at Law  
224 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200  
Rock Island, IL 61201

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Listing of inventors:

Full name of sole or first inventor: ROBERT FRINK

Inventor's Signature: 

Date: March 1, 2004 Country of Citizenship: USA

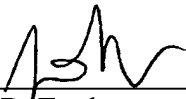
Residence: 2253 30<sup>th</sup> Street, Rock Island, Illinois 61201

Post Office Address: 2253 30<sup>th</sup> Street, Rock Island, Illinois 61201

5. Enclosed is a check for the filing fees in the amount of \$385.00, calculated as shown on the attached fee calculation sheet.
6. Information Disclosure Statement.
7. The following additional papers are enclosed: NONE

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 3/1/04

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
James B. Eagle  
Registration No. 35,496

EAGLE & EAGLE  
Attorneys at Law  
224 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 200  
Rock Island, IL 61201  
309/788-7671